

TO: Freedom of Information Commission
FROM: Thomas A. Hennick
RE: Minutes of the Commission's regular meeting of August 11, 2021

A regular meeting of the Freedom of Information Commission was held on August 11, 2021. Due to public health concerns surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, the Commission meeting of August 11, 2021 was conducted telephonically. The meeting convened at 2:01 p.m. with the following Commissioners present:

Commissioner Owen P. Eagan, presiding
Commissioner Jonathan J. Einhorn
Commissioner Matthew Streeter
Commissioner Christopher P. Hankins
Commissioner Lenny T. Winkler
Commissioner Stephen Fuzesi Jr.

Also present were staff members, Colleen M. Murphy, Mary E. Schwind, Kathleen K. Ross, Valicia D. Harmon, Paula S. Pearlman, Danielle L. McGee, Matthew D. Reed, C. Zack Hyde, Cindy Cannata and Thomas A. Hennick.

The Commissioners unanimously voted to approve the Commission's regular meeting minutes of July 28, 2021.

Those in attendance were informed that the August 11, 2021 regular meeting of the Commission was being recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2019-0677](#) Gregory Weathers v. Armando Perez, Chief, Police Department, City of Bridgeport; Police Department, City of Bridgeport; and City of Bridgeport

Gregory Weathers appeared on his own behalf. Attorney Dina Scalo appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2019-0723](#) Victor Velasco v. Rollin Cook, Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Correction; and State of Connecticut, Department of Correction

Victor Velasco appeared on his own behalf. Attorney Tracie Brown appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

[Docket #FIC 2020-0253](#)

Diego Vas II v. Thomas DeNuto, Assessor, City of Bristol; City of Bristol; Angel Quiros, Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Correction; and State of Connecticut, Department of Correction

Diego Vas II appeared on his own behalf. Attorney Tracie Brown appeared on behalf of the respondents from the Department of Correction. The Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

Docket #FIC 2019-0756

Mike Savino, and WFSB Channel 3 v. Director of Public Records, State of Connecticut, University of Connecticut, Public Records Administration; and State of Connecticut, University of Connecticut, Public Records Administration

The matter was removed from the agenda.

[Docket #FIC 2020-0193](#)

Charles Cornelius v. Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Correction; and State of Connecticut, Department of Correction

Charles Cornelius appeared on his own behalf. Attorney Lori McCurdy appeared on behalf of the respondents. The Commissioners voted, 5-0, to adopt the Hearing Officer's Report. Commissioner Einhorn recused himself from the matter. The proceedings were digitally recorded.

Attorney Valicia D. Harmon reported on the Court Order dismissing the appeal in *Godbout v. Freedom of Information Commission*, HHB-CV-205027250-S (August 3, 2021).

Colleen M. Murphy reported that due to the rise in COVID-19 cases, the transition back to in person or "hybrid" contested case hearings would be delayed until at least the end of October, but that the decision would be reviewed at the end of September. Executive Director Murphy said that equipment was being ordered to allow hearings to be held simultaneously from two locations. This will help reduce case backlog.

Colleen M. Murphy reported that the first round of interviews had been conducted with candidates for the vacant Staff Attorney II position.

Colleen M. Murphy reported that the Commission had been contacted by the committee created to review the remote meeting provisions recently adopted by the Legislature.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:46 p.m.